



Pennsylvania Agricultural Statistics Service
2301 North Cameron Street, Room G-19
Harrisburg, PA 17110-9405
Marc Tosiano, State Statistician

717-787-3904
Fax: 717-782-4011
nass-pa@nass.usda.gov
www.usda.gov/nass

A field office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture

Press Release

Press Release Announcement - September 6, 2002 - For Immediate Use

Pennsylvania Mushroom Production Up 2 Percent

HARRISBURG --- Pennsylvania growers led all states in production with 460 million pounds of Agaricus mushrooms during the 2001-2002 season, up 2 percent from last year's production, according to the Pennsylvania Agricultural Statistics Service. The Agaricus crop was valued at 390 million dollars, 9 percent more than the value of the 2000-2001 crop.

Pennsylvania growers supplied 55 percent of all Agaricus mushrooms grown in the U.S. Sales of Pennsylvania Agaricus mushrooms accounted for 51 percent of the nation's fresh market sales and 74 percent of processing sales.

Fresh market sales, at 353 million pounds, were up 3 percent from the 2000-2001 season. Processing sales, at 106 million pounds, were down 3 percent. During the 2001-2002 season, growers in Pennsylvania received an average of 95 cents per pound for fresh market sales and 51 cents per pound for sales to processors. Prices for mushrooms are the average prices that producers receive at the point of first sale.

Nationally, production of Agaricus mushrooms totaled 851 million pounds, down 1 percent from the previous season. Eighty-three percent of Agaricus mushrooms were sold in the fresh market and 17 percent were sold for processing. In addition, 14.1 million pounds of specialty mushrooms were produced during the 2001-2002 season, down 3 percent from last year. Specialty mushrooms include Shiitake, Oyster, and all other specialty varieties. Virtually all specialty mushrooms are sold fresh. Producers received an average price of \$1.07 per pound for Agaricus mushrooms and \$2.77 per pound for specialty mushrooms, 27 cents or 9 percent less than last year.